Biodiversity Conservation, Forests Policies including wildlife conservation, Coastal Management and Ocean issues, Toxic and Hazardous Waste Management, facilitate scientific and technological research, exchange information on environmentally sound technologies and legislation related to sustainable development and environmental protection including law enforcement, sustainable agriculture and agro-forestry techniques, environmental education and promotion of public awareness, protection of flora and fauna, prevention of trade in endangered species, training of personnel, environment impact assessment systems and procedures, management of wetlands and mangroves.

[English]

Railway Stations at Guwahati and Lumding

1455. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fourth receipt and despatch yard line at the Lumding has been completed;

(b) whether conversion of platforms Nos. one, three and four at the Guwahati station alongwith washable apron on platforms No. three and four has been completed;

(c) whether washable apron at platform No. one at Lumding station has been provided; and

(d) the details of provision of water filling arrangement for coaches at the platform Nos. one and four at the Guwahati Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The facilities required for water filling on these platforms have been provided.

Erode-Ernakulam Railway Line

1456. SHRI N.N. KRISHNA DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the work of the Erode-Ernakulam Railway line of the Southern Railway stands presently;

(b) whether there are technical obstacles preventing the said construction activity;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to remove these obstacles; and

(e) the time by which the same is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (e) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member intends to find out the position of Erode-Ernakulam railway electrification work as there is no other line work between these stations. The position of electrification work is as under:

> Electrification of Erode-Ernakulam section including Cochin Harbour Terminus is an approved work. The work on section Erode-Coimbatore has already been completed. The entire section Erode-Ernakulam is targetted for completion by March, 98.

[Translation]

Diversion of Funds of Krishi Vigyan Kendras

1457. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the financial assistance provided to Bihar for Krishi Vigyan Kendras is being spent for other purposes as a result of which the position of the said kendras remains worse and they could not encourage model farming; and

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the arrangements being made for utilising the allocated amount on these kendras only?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Adequate measures have already been taken by the Government to check any diversion of money provided for Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Bihar by opening separate Bank Account in each Agricultural University and Non-Government Organization and also for each of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras. Grants are released from the Council only in those accounts. Very close monitoring is done for full utilization of allocated fund of Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

[English]

Train between Delhi and Baghpat

1458. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 4545 UP and 4546 DN trains running between Delhi-Baghpat-Delhi stops at all the halt stations on the route despite being a mail train; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As 4545/4546 Delhi-Saharanpur Express provides convenient morning/evening commuter service, it stops at three out of five intermediate halt stations between Delhi and Baghpat Road on public demand.